

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Hybrid (in-person and/or virtual) Meeting
August 24, 2021 - 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2021 through 8/2021					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Elizabeth Adler, Chair	M	P	7	1
2	Douglas Meade	I	P	7	1
3	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
4	Kelly Charles	IV	P	7	1
5	Vacant Position	I	-	-	-
6	Owen Cylke	C	P	6	2
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	A	6	2
8	Carolann Mazza	III	P	7	1
9	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
10	Carol Tamburry	III	A	7	1
11	Vacant Position	M	-	-	-

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Stephanie Wilk, Sustainability Specialist, Staff Liaison

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Dr. Nancy J. Gassman, Assistant Director Public Works – Sustainability

Guests Present

Pam Kane

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Adler at 6:05 p.m. The roll was called, and a quorum was present. Mr. Cylke arrived 6:36 p.m.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for July 26, 2021, were introduced. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Meade and seconded by Ms. Mazza. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Wilk shared that masks are required on City property and City facilities.

Ms. Wilk notified the Board that the December meeting is on December 27th and asked if they would like to reschedule that meeting because of the holidays. She suggested December 20th as an alternative. The Board agreed to reschedule the December meeting to December 20, 2021.

Update on Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance Revisions

Mr. Hadwen shared that at the last Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) meeting the board decided to defer the Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance Revisions until the November meeting. Staff worked with a stakeholder group and submitted their final draft in early July. It is still awaiting internal approval and is expected to reach PZB by November.

Broward Solar Co-op 2021

Broward Solar Co-op is open for 2021 session. Last day for sign up is October 15th. Staff will circulate a flyer to the SAB through the Friday information exchange. The Co-op is a great way to learn about solar power as a group and enjoy the benefits of group buying power. Sustainability staff are also providing outreach to the City's homeowners associations to try and get more residents engaged.

Presentations

The August SAB meeting was rescheduled from Monday, August 23, 2021, to Tuesday, August 24, 2021. As a result, the presenters that were scheduled were unable to make the new meeting date. They have been invited to present at the September SAB meeting instead.

New Business

Vote for SAB Vice Chair

Ms. Tamburri nominated Mr. Meade for Vice Chair. A motion was made by Ms. Mazza and seconded by Ms. Adler for Mr. Meade to be named Vice Chair. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Climate Change and Insurance Rates

Due to the absence of the presenters, the Board decided to defer this discussion to the September SAB meeting.

Proposed Communications

Climate Change and Insurance Rates Webinar

The Board decided to defer this to the September SAB meeting after they hear from the presenters.

Park at One Stop Shop Location

Ms. Wilk shared the following excerpt from Commissioner Glassman's newsletter from [August 2021](#).

"One-Stop Site ArtsPark

Speaking of smart decisions, the P3 public/private partnership ArtsPark proposal at the downtown One-Stop site continues its way through the process. With two-thirds of the site open, green space, a central park larger than a football field paid for at no cost to residents, and a gorgeous cultural center and marketplace with opportunities for arts, music, cuisine, or just a coffee with your yoga in the park, I think this is a wonderful opportunity for Fort Lauderdale.

This ArtsPark is being fully vetted by city staff for financial, planning, and concept sustainability. We are not rushing this; in fact, this has been an almost three-year process. The proposers continue to work with stakeholders throughout the city as they listen and make improvements. For example, while the original concept called for a large, monolithic building that loomed over the park, the revised design is two much smaller structures more in keeping with the scale of a park and designed to keep and protect the old growth trees on the site. The plan includes at least \$10 million for the new park that will be open to all. In addition, we are working through different financial options that will most benefit our City residents. One option would include direct payments to the City for the use of the site and long-term improvements that combined could mean over \$200 million in total benefits for the taxpayers.

That's significant for every resident of Fort Lauderdale.

This ArtsPark is an exciting opportunity for all of us. I hope we can continue to improve this opportunity, work together, and cut through the misinformation so that we can make a decision based on the merits. I so appreciate all the input; keep it coming. It is the input/suggestions of the residents that is continually added to the comprehensive agreement as we strive to build the best park around for both Flagler Village and the entire City. I have purposely recommended several deferments on this item in order to continue the dialogue and ensure that it is ready to return to the Commission. The neighborhood and the entire City deserve nothing less."

Ms. Wilk also read an excerpt from the same newsletter on the topic of Bahia Mar.

Please find the newsletter attached.

Next, Ms. Wilk shared an email from LeeAnn Barber from the Flagler Village Civic Association. Ms. Barber requested that the SAB meet with the Parks and Recreation Board. Additionally, this email included the following site assessment of ArtsPark by Dr. Jennifer Jurardo, Deputy Director and Chief Resilience Officer, Broward County.

“1. Site is partially located in the County’s designated Priority Planning Area which delineates areas at increased risk of flooding under conditions of sea level rise (consistent with Compact Sea Level Rise Projection).

2. The Adjacent intersection of Broward Blvd and Andrews Ave is known to flood during heavy storms.

3. Opportunities to preserve and create additional green space for stormwater management and retention should be maximized, especially in light of current and future flood risk, and help reduce the need for more costly and disruptive stormwater retrofits in the future.

4. Current property site is about 25% impervious. Additional impervious will reduce opportunities for enhanced storage on this site, and could contribute to water management challenges.

5. As the site is already substantially undeveloped, and based on water management needs and community interests, an attractive and functional stormwater park would support resilience measures while incorporating a preferred community amenity (a point that is increasingly underscored by agencies and advocacy groups as essential to inclusive, whole-community adaptation planning).”

Please find the email attached.

Dr. Nancy Gassman asked to clarify if the previous statement is from Dr. Jurardo or LeeAnn Barber. Ms. Wilk said she will contact LeeAnn Barber and confirm if the site assessment was directly from Dr. Jurardo.

Ms. Wilk introduced Pam Kane who signed up to speak on the ArtsPark solicitation. Ms. Kane shared that the developer of this property owns “America’s Backyard” and “Revolution”. She expressed that several members of her family live downtown around these businesses and are impacted each weekend because of the loud noise. Ms. Kane shared that she believes this particular developer wants to take over this property so that when the area is completely developed, he can lease out parking to the surrounding businesses resulting in additional income. Ms. Kane urged that this property should be a public space that is sustainable for the City. Ms. Adler thanked Ms. Kane for speaking with the Board.

Ms. Adler asked the Board what type of message they would like to send to the Commission. Ms. Wilk shared the SAB enabling ordinance to assist the Board in choosing what they would like to communicate to the City Commission. Mr. Hadwen suggested that the Board consider Sec. 2-259(2) which reads “To identify and recommend affordable strategies associated with climate change, sea level rise, resource use, conservation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, taking into account ecological, economic and social equities...”. Mr. Hadwen added that the issue of the SAB’s scope was brought up by the City Commission more than once. He recommended that the SAB focus on its purview to maintain credibility with the Commission.

Mr. Hadwen shared Climate Central’s Coastal Risk Screening Tool and showed that ArtsPark is located about 3.5 feet above the high tide line. Dr. Gassman added that because this property is at a higher elevation, water would have to be pumped into the area for it to be used as a stormwater park. Dr. Gassman explained that usually, stormwater parks are located at a low location in an area where water naturally runs.

Ms. Adler asked the Board if they had any thoughts on this topic in terms of a Communication. She emphasized that if they send a Communication that it should be focused on environmental sustainability issues. Ms. Mazza and Ms. Meade agreed and suggested that the Board think about it and talk about it at the next SAB meeting. Mr. Cylke shared that Vice Mayor Moraitis has a meeting on this topic Thursday, August 26th, and will be speaking on the ArtsPark solicitation. Ms. Adler asked if Mr. Cylke could report back on what is discussed at the Vice Mayor's meeting. Ms. Adler asked Ms. Wilk to keep this item on the agenda for next month and for the Board to think about what they would like to communicate to the City Commission.

Comments

Ms. Charles asked the Board if they could add the topic of termites and termite bait stations on a future agenda. She asked Mr. Hadwen if the Urban Forester could speak to the Board on this topic. Mr. Hadwen explained that it could be added to a future agenda if the Board would like, and he would follow up with the Urban Forester.

Items for Next Meeting

Presentation:

- Climate Change and Insurance Rates {FEMA}
- Climate Change and Insurance Rates {FAIR}

New Business:

- Lockhart Stadium

Old Business:

- Insurance Rates and Climate Change Speaker
- Planning for Joint Meeting with Other Cities

Proposed Communications:

- Climate Change and Insurance Rates
- Park at One Stop Shop Location

Future Presentations:

The Board discussed the following topics for future presentations:

October: Termites or Circular Economy

November: Mixed Use Ordinance

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Tamburri and seconded by Mr. Meade to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. In a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.